

DIAA Board of Directors' Meeting  
Thursday, April, 9, 2020 – 9:00 A.M.  
Video Conference Call

Meeting Minutes

I. Opening

A. Call to Order

Dr. Layfield called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.

B. Roll Call

The following DIAA Board members were present: Dr. Kathleen Andrus, Dr. Bradley Bley, Mike Breeding, Robert Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Dr. Evelyn Edney, Vetra Evans-Gunter, Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald, Bruce Harris, Mike Hart, Jeremy Jeanne, Ted Laws, Dr. Bradley Layfield, Chuck Little, Douglas Thompson, Stan Waterman, and Robert Watson.

Michael Rodriguez, Associate Secretary of Education, Laura Makransky, Deputy Attorney General, and DIAA staff Donna Polk and Amoscita Rodriguez were also in attendance.

C. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Breeding made a motion to approve the agenda; the motion was seconded by Mr. Hart and carried with a unanimous vote 17 – yes [Andrus, Bley, Breeding, Cilento, Donovan, Edney, Evans-Gunter, Fitzgerald, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Laws, Layfield, Little, Thompson, Watson and Waterman] and 0 no.

D. Approval of Minutes of DIAA March 12, 2020 Board Meeting

Mr. Laws made a motion to approve the March 12, 2020 Minutes; the motion was seconded by Mr. Cilento and carried with a vote 14 Yes - [Andrus, Bley, Cilento, Donovan, Evans-Gunter, Fitzgerald, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Layfield, Little, Thompson, Watson and Waterman], 0 – No, and 3 – Abstentions [Breeding, Edney and Laws].

E. Approval of Minutes of DIAA March 27, 2020 Board Meeting

Mr. Laws made a motion to approve the Minutes of DIAA March 27, 2020 Board Meeting; the motion was seconded by Mr. Hart and carried with a vote 16 Yes - [Andrus, Bley, Breeding, Cilento, Donovan, Edney, Evans-Gunter, Fitzgerald, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Laws, Layfield, Thompson, Watson and Waterman], 0-No, and 1 - Abstention [Little].

F. DIAA Financial Report

Ms. Polk reported that revenue has been collected from winter championships and membership dues (which DIAA is still collecting). The budget will be effected by DIAA not having basketball championships due to Covid-19.

Mr. Watson made a motion to approve the financial report; the motion was seconded by Mr. Little and carried with a unanimous vote 17-Yes [Andrus, Bley, Breeding, Cilento, Donovan, Edney, Evans-Gunter, Fitzgerald, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Laws, Layfield, Little, Thompson, Watson and Waterman] and 0-No.

## II. Request by Delaware Interscholastic Basketball Coaches Association for NFHS June Scholastic Event on June 20, 2020 (DIBCA)

Mike Sanford, DIBCA, informed the board that DIBCA is scheduled to host a basketball camp Saturday, June 20, 2020. Rising freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors are invited to attend, but this year DIBCA would like to offer current seniors the opportunity to participate.

Mr. Hart made a motion to approve the request for the 19-20 school year contingent upon the governor's orders and any instruction/changes by the NFHS; the motion was seconded by Mr. Jeanne and carried with a unanimous vote 17-Yes [Andrus, Bley, Breeding, Cilento, Donovan, Edney, Evans-Gunter, Fitzgerald, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Laws, Layfield, Little, Thompson, Watson and Waterman] and 0 No.

## III. Delaware Interscholastic Football Coaches Association USA Football Heads Up Safety Camp for 2020 (DIFCA)

John Wilson informed the Board about the Football Safety Camp for football coaches.

Mr. Cilento made a motion to allow the camp to occur contingent upon the Governor's orders and guidelines, whether or not schools are reopened, and the camp occurs by the end date of June 30, 2020. The motion was seconded by Mr. Watson and carried with a unanimous vote 17-Yes [Andrus, Bley, Breeding, Cilento, Donovan, Edney, Evans-Gunter, Fitzgerald, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Laws, Layfield, Little, Thompson, Watson and Waterman] and 0 No.

## IV. Coronavirus COVID-19 Impact on Spring Sports Regular and Championship Seasons

Ms. Polk provided the board with the results of a survey that she conducted inquiring with both public and private schools regarding school closing dates and activities, if schools resume on May 18, 2020. Ms. Polk stated that all but four schools responded and there were various closing dates. Most private schools indicated that they may not reopen for the school year.

There was discussion about there being spring sports and that would consist of one-week acclimatization period and competitions occurring between May 25<sup>th</sup> through June 20<sup>th</sup>.

Dr. Layfield made a motion contingent upon the Governor's closure of schools, should schools reopen on Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> that DIAA allow for a spring sport season for all varsity and sub-varsity sports. Making the week of May 18<sup>th</sup> no competition but for acclimatization; begin competitions on or after 5/25, ending no later than 6/20-following the regulatory maximum allotment of competitions per week. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cilento and carried with a unanimous vote 17 – Yes [Andrus, Bley, Breeding, Cilento, Donovan, Edney, Evans-Gunter, Fitzgerald, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Laws, Layfield, Little, Thompson, Watson and Waterman] and 0 no.

## V. Amendment to Regulations 1008 and 1009-6.1.1

Motion made by Dr. Layfield to correct subsection 7.5 to 7.6 and seconded by Mr. Hart; carried with a unanimous vote 17 Yes [Andrus, Bley, Breeding, Cilento, Donovan, Edney, Evans-Gunter, Fitzgerald, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Laws, Layfield, Little, Thompson, Watson and Waterman] and 0 No.

## VI. Amendments to Regulation 1006

Laura Makransky, Deputy Attorney General, reviewed changes/amendments made to regulation 1006 which included:

- 3.2.1.1.2.3 Addition of Scheduling Committee
- 3.2.1.1.2.6 Addition of Student Athlete Development Committee and Student Athlete Advisory Subcommittee
- 3.2.2 “and Subcommittee” was added
- 3.2.2.1.2 “The Coordinator of Interscholastic Athletics or his or her designee shall be a voting, ex officio committee member of the Sportsmanship Committee. Was stricken from regulations.
- 3.2.2.1.3 Stricken
- 3.3.3.3.3 Added – “The Student-Athlete Development Committee...”
- 3.2.2.7 Added “The Executive Director shall make a call for applications to fill vacancies on the Student-Athlete Advisory Subcommittee...”
- 3.3.3 Addition “The Executive Director and the Coordinator of Interscholastic Athletics shall provide administrative assistance to the committees before, during, and after committee meetings subject to the department’s approval and supervision.”
- 4.5 Addition “In the event the executive director position is vacant, the Board may refer the executive director’s responsibilities to a designee or designees, subject to the Department’s approval and supervision, until the position is filled.”

Mr. Laws made a motion to remove from the table a proposed change to add the executive director as a voting member of committees and remove it from action. Mr. Watson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously 17 -Yes [Andrus, Bley, Breeding, Cilento, Donovan, Edney, Evans-Gunter, Fitzgerald, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Laws, Layfield, Little, Thompson, Watson and Waterman] and 0 No.

Mr. Watson made a motion to recommend the changes to Regulation 1006 for adoption by the Department and the motion was seconded by Dr. Donovan. The motion carried unanimously 17 -Yes [Andrus, Bley, Breeding, Cilento, Donovan, Edney, Evans-Gunter, Fitzgerald, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Laws, Layfield, Little, Thompson, Watson and Waterman] and 0 No.

## VII. DIAA Executive Director’s Report

Ms. Polk reported that:

- 1) Sunset Legislative Hearing that was scheduled for March 17<sup>th</sup> was postponed due to the state of emergency in response to Covid-19.

- 2) Dragonfly is now partnering with NFHS and there were webinars for the Athletic Directors and Officials. One item of interest is the ability of officials to register directly with NFHS via Dragonfly instead of having to go through DIAA.
- 3) NFHS Summit was cancelled.
- 4) DIAA Coordinator position was offered to Stephanie Marks who is scheduled to begin on 6/8/20. Stephanie is currently the Assistant Athletic Director at Sanford School.

#### VIII. Other Items for Discussion Only

- Agenda item IV will be on the May Board Meeting Agenda
- Dr. Fitzgerald mentioned that Colorado and other places were showing signs of solidarity to recognize athletes that cannot participate in sports activities. He suggested that DIAA do something symbolic like asking schools to turn on the lights in their fields, etc to recognize student athletes in the state.
- Mr. Watson also suggested that an editorial be written for a newspaper to recognize seniors
- Ms. Polk mentioned the impact of COVID 19 and student physicals when students return to school

#### IX. Public Comment

There was no public comment

#### X. Adjournment

Mr. Laws made a motion to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Mr. Watson. The meeting adjourned at 10:59 am.